

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 180  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024**

**BENEFICIARIES UNDER AYUSHMAN BHARAT**

**180. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether eligible beneficiaries under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana are selected based on census 2011 data;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's current mechanism to cover people left out of the scheme due to the scheme's reliance on an old database;
- (c) whether the Government is in the process of adopting a more suitable mechanism for identifying State/UT-wise beneficiaries under the Scheme and weed out ineligible beneficiaries in a time-bound manner;
- (d) if so, the details and timeline thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (e): Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme which aims to provide health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to approximately 55 crore beneficiaries corresponding to 12 crore families constituting the bottom 40% of India's population.

Initially, 10.74 crore beneficiary families under the scheme were targeted on the basis of the Socio-economic Caste Census (SECC) of 2011 using select deprivation and occupational criteria across rural and urban areas, respectively. Further, in January 2022, Government of India revised the beneficiary base to 12 crore families and States/UTs have been given the flexibility to use other digitized databases of similar socio-economic for identification of beneficiaries under the scheme. Accordingly, States/UTs have provided Aadhaar-seeded databases of poor and vulnerable families for verification under the scheme.

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